



Mobility Management
of Brown County
"Creating Independence"

Mobility Management of Brown County contributes to long-range planning goals of the county and our extensive network of partners, to move older adults and individuals with disabilities where they need to go at a price they can afford.



Mobility Management is **not** a service provider and the Mobility Coordinator does **not** schedule rides.

MOBILITY COORDINATOR

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DECEMBER 2017

Mobility Management Program of Brown County

In July 2017, a Focus Group was created with representatives from non- and for-profit transportation providers, rural elected officials and community members, public and special-needs schools, nursing care facilities, Brown County Planning Department, the Aging & Disability Resource Center and Green Bay Metro. The primary goal of this unique partnership is to identify gaps and overlaps in transportation services and together, create solutions that are customer-focused and community-oriented.

To date, the group has identified both large and small-scale gaps. The first goal was to reduce paperwork on applications for similar services: Green Bay Metro Paratransit and Curative Connections. Now only one application needs to be completed and mailed by the applicant. With a checkmark of a box, information can be shared between the two agencies and the applicant has applied for service at both places. Customer-focused solutions streamline the process, lessen the confusion and frustration for the applicant, lowers costs and saves time for those who assist individuals in applying for services (i.e. family members and case workers). The application will be available January 1, 2018.

For more information on The Focus Group, contact the Mobility Coordinator at 448-3457.

Physical barriers exist that prevent accessibility for some individuals. This could be as simple as excess snow and as challenging as architectural design of buildings, sidewalks, etc.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

As snow falls, think accessibility. Shovel and ice-melt your sidewalks, including curb cuts, and parking lots.

If obstructions are inevitable, display proper signage to warn people.

Provide a path wide enough for a wheelchair around obstructing items: snowbanks, damaged concrete, trash piles or other things that block a path.

Be conscious of weather conditions and pedestrians when driving.

Mobility Management Programs at work in Wisconsin

Innovation in Oconto & Marinette County:

In the fall of 2017, *My Garage*, a program of Newcap, began providing simple repairs and maintenance on cars owned by elderly, disabled or low-income residents of Marinette and Oconto Counties. My Garage services include oil changes, tire rotations, fuel pump replacements and simple fixes. As the program grows, so will the services offered and the partnerships supporting these efforts. The repairs are done in Wausaukee and eligibility is determined through Newcap.

Quick Facts on Public

Transportation:

- * Public transit is 10 times safer than driving.
- * Wisconsin transit systems generated a 3 to 1 on tax dollar investment.
- * In 2016, Green Bay Metro transported 9,028 mobility devices and over 15,000 bikes.
- * 72% of all trips on Green Bay Metro buses were for work and/or school.
- * Cameras on every bus, at transfer points, and at the station, ensures safety and security for all.

Benefits of this program:

- Students are in mechanical classes at NWTC.
- Repairs are for a nominal fee; payment plans are offered for larger items.
- Newcap will eventually hire an ASE Certified Technician to perform advanced repairs.
- *Workforce Development Enhancement:* Businesses need properly trained workers. By students doing hands-on, real-life work, they are better prepared when they exit.
- Having a reliable vehicle assists elderly and/or disabled individuals to remain independent, especially in rural areas.

Keeping employed persons working is critical for families, our economy, and business. For those working at the bottom end of the pay scale, a disabled vehicle is an economic disaster and the cost of repair can be out of reach.

Peggy Zielinski is the Transportation Director of NEWCAP in Oconto and Marinette Counties.

Personal Story:

Independence acquired through travel training

Approaching age 18, a young woman we will call "Jane" had a situation. Jane lives with her grandmother who intended to go to a nursing home soon. Jane needed to learn how to navigate the city for shopping, education, appointments and eventually employment. Jane had additional challenges: she has a high-functioning developmental disability, had never ridden a bus, and was not familiar with the city.

Through her DVR case manager and teacher at Minoka Hill, Jane began travel training.

Jane rode a bus with the trainer to become familiar with what to do, when and how. Jane reviewed bus routes and times. They rode buses with specific destinations and Jane's confidence grew. She is becoming an avid rider. Her future outlook and independence is bright.

"I learned where the bus stops and how to catch it. I liked learning how to get to places I want to go, like IHOP. Ms. Jennifer is really nice and she helped me learn". From Jane.